

CEDAR RIVER ANADROMOUS FISH COMMITTEE

Final Meeting Minutes

Summary Version

October 19, 2000

Members Present: Bruce Bachen (SPU); Gwill Ging (USFWS); Dennis Moore (Muckleshoot Indian Tribe); Tom Sibley (NMFS), Ron Warren, Steve Foley (WDFW); Bill Robinson (Washington Council of Trout Unlimited.); Nick Gayeski, Sam Wright (Washington Trout)

Other Participants: Dennis Dorratcague, Clint Smith (Montgomery Watson), Bill Wells, George Schneider, Cyndy Holtz (SPU)

- I. **Call to Order:** *The meeting began at 9:05.*
- II. **Approval of Agenda** – *Agenda was approved as presented.*
- III. **Minutes review and approval for September 14, 2000 meeting.** *Minutes were approved as presented. The Committee agreed to post a summary version of the minutes on the AFC website and make the full version of the minutes available by request.*
- IV. **Approval of letter to WDFW requesting cooperation in supplying research results –**
The Committee unanimously agreed to send a letter to WDFW that was meant to encourage dialogue about the needs of the hatchery project and the analysis of otolith data.
- V. **Fish Passage Project –**
Discussions were held on fish passage conceptual designs. There was general agreement on conceptual designs for the ladder and sorting facility at Landsburg and on the fish screen design. However, some members requested that juvenile fish sampling facilities be added to the bypass water line from the fish screens. There was concern about the amount of rip rap associated with the project and the engineers were asked to look at alternatives for bank protection. Further design work will be done on the downstream passage design and on the passage options at the pipeline. SPU considered the alternative of burying the pipeline, but decided that passage could be provided within the HCP commitments by one of several other options and the burial option would add substantial cost, likely cause delay in achieving fish passage and add uncertainty. A meeting of the agency engineers and design consultants will be scheduled prior to the next AFC meeting to try to resolve outstanding design questions and AFC members will be invited to attend.

The pre-application meeting with representatives of the Corps of Engineers and state and federal agencies was held on October 18 to discuss the

Landsburg fish passage project. Use of rip rap surfaced as a concern at that meeting. A Biological Assessment will need to be submitted by SPU at the time of application.

SPU selected Natt McDougall Company as the General Contractor/ Construction Manager for the fish passage project. This firm is highly experienced in fisheries projects in the Northwest and specializes in sensitive inwater construction work. This alternative construction approach provides the opportunity for construction experience to guide the design and planning of the facilities.

VI. Hatchery Program Development

1. Alternative broodstock collection

A three-phase plan was approved by the AFC for evaluation of alternative broodstock collection methods. The goal is to identify a conceptual design or designs that should be considered in the design work for the replacement hatchery.

2. Rearing evaluation plan

The AFC discussed conducting an evaluation of short-term rearing at the Cedar River Hatchery and further work will be done to develop the proposal.

3. Design consultant process selection –

SPU will begin the selection process for the hatchery design consultant in December. This work will be phased to reflect future direction from the Parties to the Landsburg Mitigation Agreement and the EIS review process.

4. Review of hatchery development schedule –

Bruce explained the schedule and pointed out that there is a substantial amount of writing and review that would have to be completed in 2001, in an effort to help the AFC understand what their workload is relative to the hatchery.

VII. Reports

1. Expert panel-

The expert panel continues to work on the development of hatchery guidelines that will provide a basis for the development of the operating protocols, design, capacity and adaptive management plans for the replacement hatchery. The panel will develop a draft report that will be reviewed by the AFC. Members of the panel include Conrad Mahnken (NMFS), Jim Winton (USGS-Biological Survey), Dave Beauchamp (U. of Washington), Ernie Brannon (U. of Idaho), and Don Campton (USFWS).

2. Cedar River returns

Ron Warren reported that the sockeye run to the Cedar River is large this year and the WDFW crews have been successful in collecting sockeye eggs for the hatchery program. To date approximately 8 million eggs have been collected so

far and this will likely be a record year for egg collection. No problems have been reported so far with chinook at the weir. Steve Foley reported that chinook redd counts have been approximately half of last years so far (38 this year compared to 80 from the same time last year). Chinook returns to the Cedar River are weak this year.

VIII. Plan next agenda for meeting schedule for November 16 –

The November 16 agenda will include discussions of the screens, sorting facilities, and downstream ladder options with the goal of identifying preferred conceptual designs.

IX. Adjournment -The meeting adjourned at 1:15 PM.